

6 December 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Company Size Unit Sightings in the DMZ

After reviewing all available information, we can find only two specific references to estimated company size units. Both of these were ARVN sightings in the eastern DMZ and no US confirmation is available. In two other instances, US personnel reported observations of 50-60 enemy which could be construed to be a complement larger than a platoon but no US sighting reports have referred to company size units as such. Both of these US sightings occurred in the central DMZ.

In addition, there were seven other US observations of enemy personnel or bodies that could be considered as approaching possible platoon size. The eleven sightings mentioned are listed below in chronological order and shown on the attached map. The six on General Wheeler's map are probably included among them.

- 25X1 (1) [redacted] sighted enemy supplies and bunkers 3 nm NE of Gio Linh. Air strikes and artillery firing resulted in 32 enemy killed.
- 25X1 (2) [redacted] bunkers and foxholes 1 1/2 nm NW of Gio Linh. Air strikes and artillery firing resulted in 21 enemy killed.
- 25X1 (3) [redacted] unit on a sweep north of Base A-1 allegedly spotted an enemy company 2 3/4 nm ENE of Gio Linh. Two hundred rounds of artillery were directed on the location with unknown results. US personnel at A-1 observed no enemy units.

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- (4) [redacted] sighted 20-30 enemy in the open 2 nm NW of Gio Linh. No enemy casualties were observed after artillery firing and air strikes.
- (5) [redacted] observed 20-30 enemy near some old bunkers 2 nm NNW of Con Thien. No enemy casualties were observed after air strikes.
- (6) [redacted] sighted 20-30 enemy near some old bunkers 2 nm NNW of Con Thien (near, but different location than #5). Air strikes were called in but no enemy casualties were observed.
- (7) [redacted] observed an estimated enemy platoon 7 1/2 nm NNW of the ROCKPILE. Air strikes were called in with unknown results.
- (8) [redacted] at A-1 base observed an estimated enemy company with two active 82mm mortars 2 1/2 nm NE of Gio Linh. Forty mortar rounds were fired on ARVN positions. ARVN artillery units fired 1,720 rounds on eight separate locations in the general area of the sighting and reported killing 25 enemy. Damage assessment was not observed by US personnel.
- (9) [redacted] sighted 35 enemy 8 1/2 nm NW of the ROCKPILE. The patrol was later extracted after reportedly being surrounded by an estimated 60 enemy.
- (10) [redacted] called in artillery fire on fifty enemy in the open 7 1/2 nm NNW of the ROCKPILE. Results unknown.
- (11) [redacted] sighted 50-60 enemy in the open 7 nm NW of the ROCKPILE. Artillery was called in with unknown results.

George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

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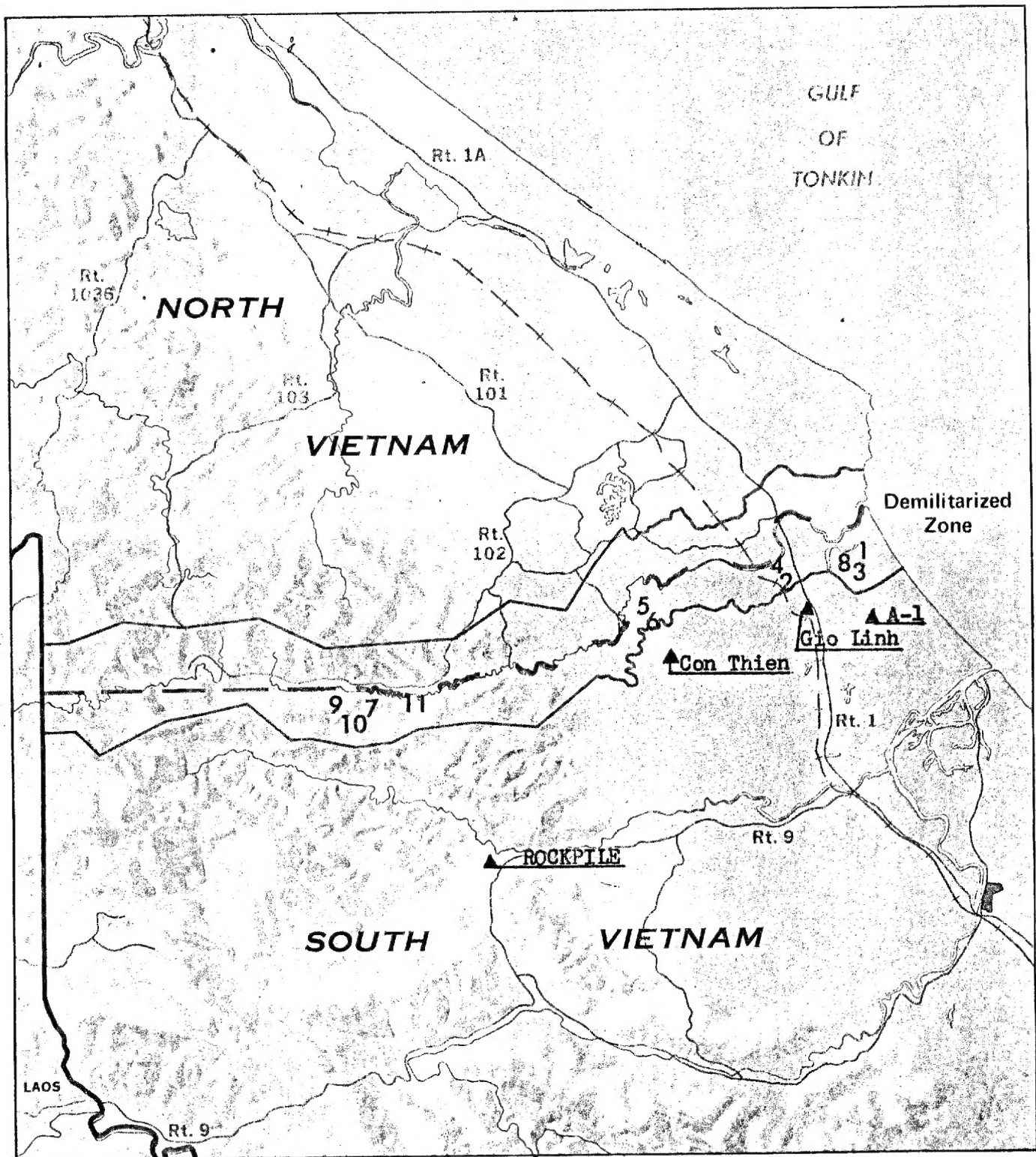
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NUMBERED LOCATIONS ARE KEYED TO TEXT



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6 Dec 68

Mr. R.J. Smith, DDI

GACarver, Jr.

Attached for your information is the buck-slip and memo sent to the Director on the matter raised during the 6 December Morning Meeting. This was checked with before being sent to the Director.

25X1

George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachment

cc:

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